

MAJOR OUTCOMES OF LTR RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO NRC'S FOUR PERFORMANCE GOALS

1. Maintain Safety, Protection of the Environment, and the Common Defense and Security

Provisions of the License Termination Rule (LTR) for restricted release/alternate criteria will become viable.

Viable new options for the restricted release/alternate criteria provisions of the LTR will offer greater assurance of long-term protection for future generations.

Improving the risk-informed implementation of the LTR regarding restricted release, exposure scenarios, and preventing future legacy sites will increase the attention of both U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and licensees to areas most important to safety.

2. Make NRC Activities and Decisions More Effective, Efficient, and Realistic

Improving the risk-informed implementation of the LTR for restricted release, realistic scenarios, and preventing future legacy sites will make NRC reviews and decisions more efficient.

Increasing flexibility together with capitalizing on lessons-learned while implementing the LTR regarding restricted release and exposure scenarios, will make NRC reviews and decisions more efficient and realistic.

3. Reduce Unnecessary Burden on Stakeholders

Viable new options will be available soon for restricted release/alternate criteria provisions of the LTR, so that licensees can make decommissioning decisions and plans with more confidence and avoid unnecessary and costly delays.

Clarifications of many LTR issues in a Regulatory Issue Summary and revised guidance will improve licensee understanding of LTR requirements and flexibility of implementation, which might improve licensee efficiency and reduce some of the costs related to decommissioning (i.e., remediation costs and NRC fees).

More realistic exposure scenarios could reduce the costs for decommissioning activities (e.g., dismantlement, transportation, and offsite disposal) for some licensees.

Measures to prevent future legacy sites should reduce the potential for unnecessary, large expenditures of Federal government funds to cleanup sites if licensees go bankrupt and have insufficient financial assurance.

4. Increase Public Confidence

Stakeholder confidence might be increased as a result of providing new options for restricted release/alternate criteria provisions of the LTR, that are viable, more protective over long time periods, and more consistent with approaches used by U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, some Agreement States, and recommended by National Research Council and the American Society for Testing Materials standard.

Questions about relationships between the LTR release limit and other limits will be answered and could result in better understanding about past LTR concerns, such as off-site removal of contamination after license termination with unrestricted release.

If NRC takes aggressive measures to minimize the potential for future legacy sites, sites that could result in unnecessary large expenditures of Federal funds, this could increase the public's confidence that NRC is an effective regulator.